Level 1 News

Winter 2012

Fast Action Saves Woman with Rare Aneurysm

Marta Gagie and her family were traveling home to Kalamazoo from Iowa City when she felt a sudden and severe pain in the back of her neck, and then toward the front of her head, resulting in a terrible popping sensation in the front of her right eye.

Marta didn't realize she was experiencing a brain aneurysm, but she did know it was the worst headache of her life. Not being one to make a fuss, Marta quietly endured her pain for the rest of the trip home but when she finally arrived, she lost feeling in her left leg and fainted. Her daughter called 911 and asked the operator to take her mother to Bronson.

The ambulance arrived within minutes. Her memory of the trip is a blur, but when she awoke around 2 a.m., the first face she saw was neurosurgeon Alain Fabi, MD, who rushed to Bronson's Trauma & Emergency Center as soon as Marta arrived.

Dr. Fabi called in his colleague, neurointerventional surgeon Jeffrey Miller, MD, after Marta's CTA scan revealed she had a bilateral subdural hematoma. "The blood's location on her brain was unusual," explains Dr. Miller. "Usually a ruptured aneurysm bleeds inside the brain, but Marta's bled into the subdural space on the brain's surface." They considered her classic symptoms, her youth and her health. After some research, they discovered Marta's particular type of aneurysm is so rare, fewer than 150 cases have been reported since 1844. *(continued)*

Marta Gagie suffered from a ruptured brain aneurysm while traveling home to Kalamazoo from Iowa City.

Sister Lakes Fire Department Donation Helps Burn Unit, Children's Burn Fund

A big thanks to Sister Lakes Fire Department who provided the Bronson Health Foundation with a generous donation of $3,500. The funds, raised through an annual golf outing, will benefit Bronson's Burn Unit and the Children's Burn Victim Fund. Anthony Stewart, Assistant Chief at Sister Lakes Fire Department presented the check to physicians and staff of the Trauma Care Unit and Burn and Wound Clinic. Bronson is grateful to Sister Lakes Fire Department for their hard work and their support of Bronson!

Sister Lakes Fire Department Assistant Chief Anthony Stewart (in uniform with check) presents the donation to (back row, left to right) Liz Semaan, Bronson Health Foundation; director of nursing Rita Bush, MSN, RN, CCRN, NE-BC; Burn and Wound medical director Dr. James Kraatz; Trauma Surgery Services medical director Dr. Scott Davidson; Trauma PI & Prevention coordinator Amy Hess, RN; and TCU RN Linda Fisch. In the front row are TCU RN Mary Ferguson; TCU unit coordinator Caryla Marsh, RN; and TCU physician assistant Mark Remmler, PA-C.

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Bronson Trauma Services would like to extend our support to the PrideCare family and the entire EMS community during this very difficult time.
We are deeply saddened and truly sorry for your incredible loss.

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Rare Brain Aneurysm

(continued) Marta had an ophthalmic aneurysm with a rupture site. Drs. Miller and Fabi decided Dr. Miller would use minimally invasive endovascular coiling to prevent it from rupturing again. Bronson's neuro-interventional surgery team specializes in different procedures, giving patients more options for treatment.

Marta's surgery was scheduled for 8 a.m. that same morning. Dr. Miller made a tiny incision at the top of her hip, where he expertly guided small wires through her femoral artery and up to her brain. He filled her aneurysm with the soft, platinum coils that would block blood flow and keep her aneurysm from rupturing. The surgery was successful and Bronson staff worked to continue monitoring her recovery.

It took some time for Marta to process everything that happened to her. To her amazement, she was well enough to return part time to her job as a kindergarten teacher after only three weeks. "I feel very lucky, and I'm so appreciative to Bronson for taking such good care of me and for the quickness in treating me," says Marta.

Holiday Treats!

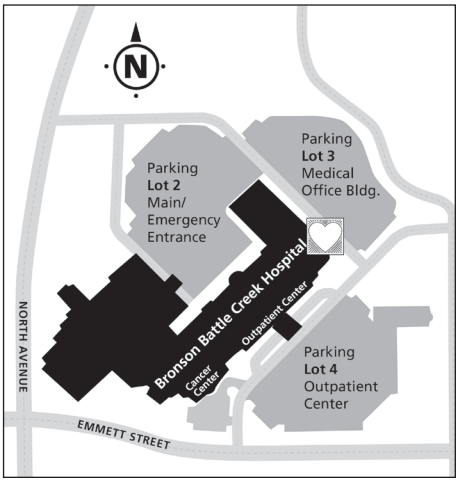
Bronson Methodist Hospital Emergency Department PCAs Christina Perry, Stephanie Kelley and Cathy Stanfield made Halloween treat bags and craft sets for the children at the YWCA.

Bronson Advanced Cardiac Healthcare Expanding at Bronson Battle Creek

Bronson Battle Creek is committed to making sure everyone in the Battle Creek area receives the highest quality medical care. That's why we're excited to share the news that the physicians of Bronson Advanced Cardiac Healthcare (BACH) are expanding coverage at Bronson Battle Creek Hospital.

To accommodate this service expansion, BACH's Battle Creek office has moved to the Bronson Battle Creek Hospital campus. The new address is 363 Fremont Street, Suite 108 in Battle Creek.

We believe that expanding access to the highest level of cardiac care is the right thing to do for our patients and people in the Battle Creek area. Together, Bronson Battle Creek and Bronson Advanced Cardiac Healthcare will work to provide the right care, at the right time, at the right place. For more information, call (269) 373-1222.



Bronson Advanced Cardiac Healthcare's Battle Creek office has moved to the Bronson Battle Creek Hospital campus.

Bronson Advanced Cardiac Healthcare

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Battle Creek

BMH Trauma & Emergency Center in Top 10% for Patient Satisfaction

Each quarter, Bronson recognizes units that place in the Top 10% or higherin the Press Ganey database. Press Ganey is the company that measures patient satisfaction and Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers & Systems (HCAHPS) scores for Bronson. A special congratulations goes out to Bronson Methodist Hospital's Trauma & Emergency Center for placing in the top 10 percent or higher for their overall score. In addition, Bronson would like to congratulate the BMH Trauma Care Unit for scoring in the top 10 percent in key areas: nurse communication, hospital environment and pain management.

Thank you for providing exceptional customer service to our patients and families during first quarter 2012. Keep up the great work!

Governor Signs Law to Help Protect Youth from Concussions

On Tuesday, October 23, governor Rick Snyder signed legislation to help protect young athletes from suffering concussions. The new law requires all youth sports coaches, employees and volunteers in Michigan to participate in a concussion awareness program, which includes giving education materials developed by the Michigan Department of Community Health to the athletes.

In addition, coaches would be required to remove any young athlete who shows signs of a concussion, including: loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems. The athlete could not return to play without a written approval from a health care provider.

According to SafeKids USA®, thirty-three other states have concussion laws in place.

Sources: mlive.com, safekids.org

Bronson Honored for Stroke Care

The American Heart Association and American Stroke Association has recognized Bronson Methodist Hospital (BMH) as the only hospital in southwest Michigan to receive the Get With The Guidelines Silver Performance Award for consistently following treatment guidelines to improve quality of care for stroke patients. BMH previously received this award in 2009.

Survey Says!

EMS Level 1 News Survey Results

The results of the EMS Level I News satisfaction survey are in and we heard you loud and clear.

We mailed out 2,979 surveys and received 53 back, which is a response rate of 1.78 percent. (Around a two percent rate of return is standard). Check out what we found:

Demographics:

- 32 percent are more than 46 years old
- Nearly 57 percent are male

Experience:

- 19 percent are EMT
- 10 percent are paramedics
- 2 percent are police
- 13 percent are fire
- 10 percent marked "Other"

Sixty-four percent have been in the same profession for more than 16 years.

About Level I News:

- Nearly 89 percent of you read most issues of Level I, with 66 percent reading every issue.
- 90 percent prefer to receive Level I News via US mail.

When asked what should be added to Level I News, you said:

Job related tips and featured EMS profession were the two most popular responses. Industry news and trends and seasonal safety info were also mentioned often.

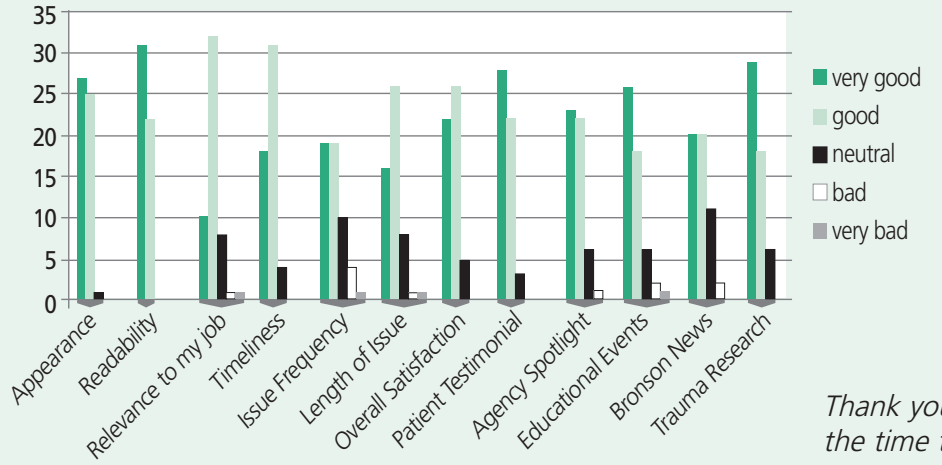
Most of the open-ended questions centered around wanting follow up on case studies and expanding the publication (i.e., more pages per issue/more than four issues per year). Ninety percent are satisfied overall with Level I News.

We are currently evaluating these results and will be adding in some new features for the February 2013 issue.

And the Winner is:

Brian Kincaid of Goodwill Industries is the winner of the $100 gas card. Congratulations!

Tim Owen presents Brian Kincaid with his $100 gas card as the winner of the survey drawing.



Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate in our survey!

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Methodist Hospital

601 John Street, Box 19
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Bronson Level I News is published quarterly by Bronson Methodist Hospital. The information included is intended to educate and inform the southwestern Michigan emergency medical services community. Want to receive Level I News? Need to change your address or be taken off our mailing list? Contact the Executive Editor at 601 John Street, Box 19, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Phone: (269) 341-6328 Fax: (269) 341-7574 bronsonhealth.com

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Bronson Awarded an 'A' for Safety

Bronson Methodist Hospital and Bronson Battle Creek Hospital were recently awarded an "A" Hospital Safety Score℠ by The Leapfrog Group. The Hospital Safety Score℠ is calculated using publicly available data on patient injuries, medical and medication errors and infections. U.S. hospitals are assigned an A, B, C, D, or F for their safety. Leapfrog's information comes from two sources: its own surveys of hospitals that agree to participate, and data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid's Hospital Compare website. The Leapfrog Group is an independent national nonprofit run by employers and other large purchasers of health benefits.For more information, go online to **bronsonhealth.com/patientsafetyfirst**.

Share Your Positivity

Read inspiring stories from Bronson patients, families and caregivers — or share your own positivity experience at **bronsonpositivity.com**.